

Appl. No. 09/816,613

Response to Office Action of September 29, 2003

REMARKS

The final Office Action was issued on pending claims 1-26. In the Office Action, claims 1-6, 9, 10, 12 and 13 stand rejected, claims 7, 8 and 11 were objected to and claims 14-26 are allowed. In this Response, claims 1 and 6-9 have been amended and no claims have been added or cancelled. Thus, claims 1-26 are pending in the application.

Applicants invite the Examiner to call Applicants' representative to discuss any issues with this application.

Allowable Claims

At pages 4 and 5 of the Office Action, claims 14-26 were allowed and claims 7, 8 and 11 were objected to. Applicants thank the Examiner for this notice of allowed and allowable claims.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

At pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 6, 9, 12 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Deeds (US 6,202,257) in view of Miwa (US 5,626,428). At page 3 of the Office Action, claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Deeds in view of Miwa and further in view of Matthews (US 5,432,510). At pages 3 and 4 of the Office Action, claims 3-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Deeds in view of Miwa and further in view of Kline (US 4,565,460). Applicants respectfully disagree.

Claim 1 has been amended to further clarify the claim. Particularly, claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the plurality of component faces of the polyhedral structure includes a third component face positioned opposite the second component face and has at least one key.

Referring to the example of Applicants' invention shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the portable information terminal 10 has a first component face having a display screen 12, a second component face adjacent the first component face and having a keyboard which has at least two

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rows of multiple input keys 15a, 15b, 15c, 15d, etc., and a third component face positioned opposite the second component face (the face having the keyboard). The third component face has at least one key as shown by keys 16, 17, 18a-c and 19a-c. See Applicants' Specification at page 9, line 29-page 10, line 8.

Applicants' portable information terminal provides advantages. For example, the portable information terminal having the three component faces (first component face having the display screen, second component face having the keyboard and third component face having at least one key) can be operated with one hand of a user. The three component faces having keys on the opposed second and third component faces allow for great flexibility of inputting information into the portable information terminal with one hand of a user. See Applicants' Specification at page 4, line 15-page 5, line 2.

Turning to Deeds, Deeds shows a handheld device 100 which has a side 118a having control keys 104. See Figs. 1A and 1B of Deeds. Control keys 104 are also provided on a front side 102. Deeds shows and describes the control keys 104 only on the left side 118a and the front side 102. Deeds does not show or describe control keys also provided on the right side 118b or the top or bottom sides.

Miwa shows in Fig. 1 a label printer 1 having a keyboard 2 on a front side of the label printer 1. Miwa does not show or describe keys on the other sides of the label printer 1.

The combination of Deeds with Miwa, if such combination is proper, does not result in Applicants' claimed invention. Combining Deeds with Miwa would result in the Deeds handheld device 100 having the Miwa keyboard 2 on the front side 102 of the handheld device 100 instead of the control keys 104. Conversely, Applicants' invention, as claimed in claim 1, calls for the second component face (which is a side face) to have the keyboard rather than the first component face (display screen). Furthermore, the combination of Deeds and Miwa would not provide Applicants' claimed third component face opposite the second component face having at least one key.

As to claims 2-6, 9, 10, 12 and 13, Applicants respectfully disagree with the rejections at least for the reasons that claim 1 is allowable.

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Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the § 103 rejections have been overcome.

Claims 6-9 are being amended merely to be consistent with claim 1.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the patent application is in condition for allowance and request a Notice of Allowance be issued.

Respectfully submitted,

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